Setting up of AIR/DD centres in the country

1556. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The details of proposal pending at present for setting up of Radio Stations and Doordarshan Centres in different parts of the country;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of such projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharti formulates plans for expansion of AIR/Doordarshan facilities in the country after taking into account existing coverage and infrastructural facilities at a given place, extent of resultant coverage, *inter-se* priorities, availability of financial resources etc. Requests for setting up of new AIR/Doordarshan Stations are received from time to time by Prasar Bharti and these are taken into consideration while formulating Five Year/Annual Plans. Prasar Bharti does not maintain any list of pending proposals for setting up of Doordarshan Kendras/ AIR Stations.

(c) Regular monitoring of all projects in AIR and Doordarshan network is carried out by Prasar Bharti at the Zonal and Headquarter levels and remedial measures, as necessary, are taken up for completion of projects as per schedule.

Exploitation by mafia cable operators

1557. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some mafia cable operators in the country are exploiting the viewers by monopolising their transactions;

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the exploitation; and

(c) the guidelines issued by Government for controlling the activities of cable operators?